

Midland Public Schools
Inspiring Excellence

Michael E. Sharrow, Superintendent
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Volume 6, Issue 27

Superintendent Communiqué

April 8, 2019

#MPSinspiringexcellence

Alden B. Dow Home & Studio and Midland Public Schools presents



- Will Axtell
- Connor Sensabaugh
- Lauren Deborski
- Reece Leydorf
- Olivia Ortiz
- Logan Rivard
- Grace Trosin

**TWELFTH ANNUAL
VISUAL ART
CAPSTONE SHOW**

Thursday, April 11th, 4PM - 6PM
Friday, April 12th, 10AM - 4PM
Saturday, April 13th, 10AM - 3PM

Alden B. Dow Home & Studio
315 Post St, Midland, MI 48640

New Midland High Principal Beginning July 1, 2019

I am pleased to announce **Tracy Speaker-Gerstheimer** as the new Principal of Midland HS beginning with the 2019-20 school year. (As you may remember, Jeff Jaster has been promoted to an MPS Associate Superintendent position.) Tracy has spent 16 years in secondary education. She led struggling schools to be successful and stellar schools to increase their performance. She has experience in both large and small school settings. She is currently the principal of Northwest Early College High School located in Canutillo, Texas, a community in the El Paso area. Ms. Speaker-Gerstheimer moved her current school from a struggling school to a 2018 Blue Ribbon School. She has successful experience leading IB schools, with a high number of students receiving their IB Diploma under her oversight. Tracy grew up in the Midland area and her parents are MPS grads. Tracy earned Bachelor's and Master's Degrees from MSU, is a National Board Certified teacher and is currently working on her Ed.D. at the University of Texas, El Paso.



HH Dow High Junior Karnika Chandra

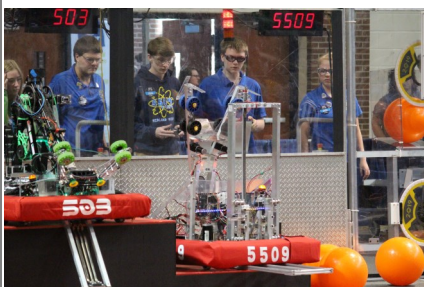
was recently named Vice President of Leadership & Development for Michigan DECA. Karnika and her team ran a successful campaign which included a campaign booth, flyers and networking with DECA peers from all over Michigan. In addition, Karnika wrote and delivered a campaign speech to over 4,000 of her peers at the state conference opening session. Karnika is the 3rd student in Dow High DECA history to serve on the state DECA Board.

Congratulations, Karnika!



MPS CONNECT is a great communications tool for you to connect with me. Every message comes to my desktop. Either I or a member of our staff will do all we can to reply to your message the next work day. Click here to connect with me: <https://goo.gl/forms/ciB8b7FAMXb4pQxN2>

On March 29 & 30, Midland High's **FIRST Robotics Team 5509 *Like A Boss***



competed at their third district event at Shepherd High School. *Like A Boss* finished the qualification matches ranked 7th and became 6th ranked alliance captains. Joining their alliance were Teams 94 and 3570, from Southfield and Alma, respectively. They competed into the quarterfinals. With the underclassmen leading the team, this event

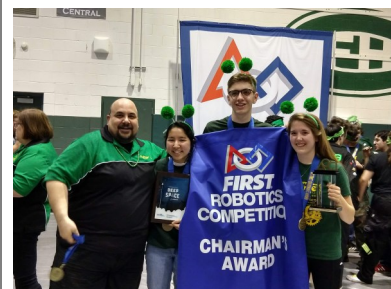
was great practice for the team's younger members. *Like a Boss* will be well prepared for the upcoming State Championships at SVSU this coming weekend!



The H.H. Dow High School Robotics Team 2619 ***The Charge*** competed at the Forest Hills *FIRST* Robotics District

Competition on April 5 & 6 among 40 other Michigan teams. At the event, Team 2619 *The Charge* won a District Chairman's Award for the 4th consecutive year. The Chairman's Award is the most prestigious award at *FIRST* and it honors the team that best represents a model for other teams to emulate and best embodies the purpose and goals of *FIRST*. The Chairman's Award looks for sustained impact over many years. Dow High's Team 2619 was also

part of the 6th ranked Alliance during playoffs, which advanced to the quarterfinals in the competition.



Congratulations to both MPS high school teams on their great results at these very competitive events!

The next competition for both the Dow High and the Midland High *FIRST* robotics teams will be the Michigan State Championship State competition at SVSU this coming weekend. Best wishes at States to *The Charge* & *Like a Boss*!

Some MPS Staff Athletic Accolades

Congratulations to **Jefferson Middle School teacher Mark Juengel** who will be inducted into the 2018 Midland County Sports Hall of Fame in May for his wonderful contributions to sports in Midland. On the Hall of Fame website it states, "With his lifelong passion for coaching and mentoring youth, Juengel has impacted thousands of young people in the community."



Congratulations to **Midland High's Boys' Basketball Coach, Eric Krause**, named Daily News Boys' Basketball Co-Coach of the Year AND



Dow High's Girls' Basketball Coach, Kyle Theisen named Daily New Girls' Basketball Co-Coach of the Year.

(Krause & Theisen photos courtesy of Midland Daily News.)

Congratulations to the **HH Dow High Model United Nations (UN)** team who completed their season during the last weekend in March. More than 60 teams from across the state and nation competed at Michigan State University.

Lillian Pressnell earned honorable mention for her committee and **William Gandy and Rehan Manjila** earned a verbal recognition. At the Oakland Conference, **Lillian Pressnell** earned Best Delegate overall.



Midland High's BPA Competes at State Leadership Conference

Forty-three Midland High School students attended the BPA State Leadership Conference in Grand Rapids. While attending the conference, students participated in work sessions related to business development and professionalism and also competed amongst 2,500 students from across the state in business-related events. 32 students placed in the top ten and 18 students qualified to attend the National Leadership Conference in early May in Anaheim, California. The students who performed at the top of their competition will represent MHS in the following events:

- ☆ Global Marketing-1st (**Tegan Kareus, Abby Chapman, Tommy Johnstone, Jarrett Wagner**)
- ☆ Presentation Management-2nd (**Lane Gauthier**)
- ☆ Human Resource Management-3rd (**Hannah Woehrle**)
- ☆ Java Programming-5th (**Brylee Pavlik**)
- ☆ Advanced Excel-5th (**Owen Jozwiak**)
- ☆ Integrated Office Applications-6th (**Corbin Fleming-Dittenber**)



Best wishes to those competing at the National Leadership Conference!

Please note: This article may look familiar. It was actually in last week's Communique, however, in the formatting, a couple of lines were omitted as they were covered by the group photo. Please allow us to include the entire article in today's Communique! We sincerely apologize to the students whose names were inadvertently omitted last week!

Thank you, Dr. Christopher Jones and Michigan Dental Association!

This past fall we received a phone call from Dr. Jones asking if we would be interested in receiving a toothbrush and toothpaste for MPS students. Of course, our answer was an unequivocal YES!



Dr. Jones took time from his very busy schedule and applied for and received a \$5,000 grant from the Michigan Dental Association to make the dental kits a reality for MPS elementary and middle school students. Dr. Jones and his staff ordered, counted, assembled and packaged kits for about 5,000 Midland Public Schools' students! WOW!

The dental kits have been delivered to our elementary and middle schools. Thank you so much Michigan Dental Association, Dr. Jones and the staff of Jones & Secor Family Dentistry. Because of your time, energy and thoughtfulness, MPS elementary and middle school students are smiling just a little brighter these days!



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REGISTER NOW FOR 2019-20 PRESCHOOL AND KINDERGARTEN

Kindergarten: Call your child's school for registration information. (School phone #s are on the last page of this Communique).

4-Year-Old Preschool: Call the PrePrimary Center at 923-6411.

MPS High School Spring Musicals at Central Auditorium!



April 11-13:
"NEWSIES" by
Midland HS

(See page 6 for ticket information)

April 25-27:
"CINDERELLA"
by HH Dow HS



**Join us for these fun
productions!**



LOOKING AHEAD THIS MONTH

⇒ **Thursday, April 18: HALF DAY OF SCHOOL**

⇒ **Friday, April 19: NO SCHOOL**

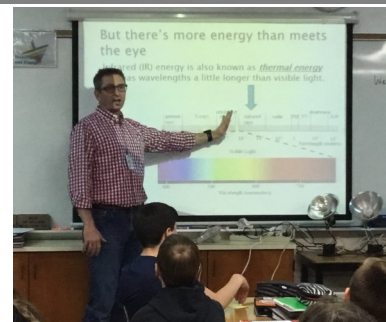
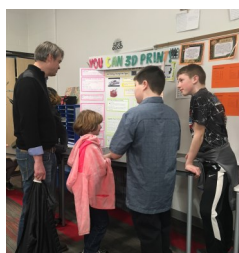
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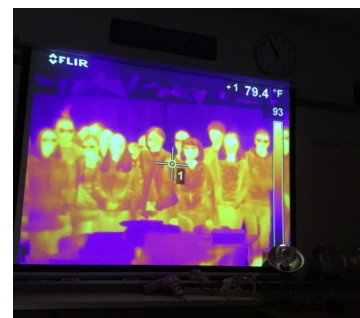


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Central Park held their 5th grade PYP Exhibition on March 19! This year's Exhibition centered around the theme, How the World Works. Students inquired into the central idea "The impact of modern advancements in everyday life." Student groups explored various aspects of technology in and around the world! Exhibition teams researched areas such as: the military, the medical field, criminal justice, virtual reality, space, 3D printing and much more! Guests enjoyed many interactive and informative action projects and displays. A HUGE thank you to all of the 5th grade students & teachers, the Central Park staff, team mentors and families for a fun-filled evening! The Exhibition was a great example of students working towards creating a better and more peaceful world! Congratulations, Central Park 5th grade!



Guest presenter, Chad Chichester, a Jefferson Alumni, returned to share information with **Jefferson 8th grade science students** about the electromagnetic spectrum and thermal energy. This presentation was a follow up to the light waves unit and an introduction to the weather unit. Mr. Chichester had students test if visible light and infrared waves are transmitted and absorbed through the same materials with his infrared camera. Students could analyze images such as hurricanes and how his camera can be used in other science applications.

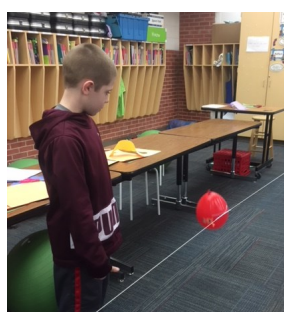


Plymouth's Super Family STEM Night

On April 3, Plymouth held their **Super Family STEM Night**! The night was filled with an array of Superhero themed STEM activities that were enjoyed by family

members of all ages! We send our **SINCERE THANKS** to all of the community members that shared their time and expertise with us: **Northeast and Dow High Robotics** teams, Dow Ambassadors, Snapology, Engineering for Kids, and the Chippewa Nature

Center. A special kudos to our own **Plymouth FLL, Jr. Robotics** teams for sharing their knowledge! Also, a **HUGE THANKS** to the Plymouth staff and CMU co-teachers for helping with this family friendly event!



The month of March was **Music In Our Schools Month**. It was designated by the National Association for Music Education as a time to focus our attention on the importance of music education in our schools. This year, to celebrate how amazing it is to have music in OUR schools, Mrs.

Williams' kindergarten through second grade students at Chestnut Hill Elem. School and Central Park Elem. School had the opportunity to invite a special guest to music class. These students performed music and shared the joy of music with nearly 200 guests!!! The students and guests were able to play instruments together, sing together, laugh together, and share their passion for music. We had a grandparent share his harmonica talents, parents and grandparents playing the drums and xylophones for the first time, and everyone singing together! It was a music filled time of letting loose and feeling the joy of music together.



On April 4, students in Mr. Welter's IB/AP .4

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Psych Honors class at Midland High School participated in Psychology Kid Day at MHS.

Mr. Welter's class had wonderful community sharing with children from ages four to ten. The Honors Psychology students were able to study real-life behavioral psychology, developmental psychology as well as the application of famous cognitive and social psychologists like Jean Piaget and Erik Ericson. Thank you to the children (and their families) for participating!



Congratulations to **HH Dow High Senior Brennan Doyle** who has been selected as one of the first ever Amazon Future Engineer Scholars! Brennan is one of 100 high school seniors from 32 states selected as a 2019 Amazon Future Engineer Scholar. This exciting new program provides college scholarships and internships at Amazon to the recipients.



Amazon's Future Engineer is a 4-part, childhood-to-career program intended to empower, educate and train 10 million students each year to pursue careers in computer science. **Congratulations Brennan!** Click here for more info on Amazon Future Engineers: www.amazonfutureengineer.com.

Our next **Parent Information Committee (PIC)** meeting is this Wednesday (4/10) from 12-1:00 at the MPS Administration Center (600 E. Carpenter). The topic *MPS Mental Health Work*.

All MPS parents are welcome!

Call Cindy at 923-5026 for more information!

Lots of bond work is currently underway!



Here is just one of the projects: foundation work for the new Adams Elem. gym & cafeteria!

Join our Team

MPS Current Job Openings

Click on this link for current job postings:

<https://www.applitrack.com/mps/onlineapp/jobpostings/view.asp>

Position	Building	Posting End Date
Coach, Assistant, Volleyball	HH Dow HS	until filled
Coach, Head, Pom Pon, Fall/Winter	HH Dow HS	until filled
Coach, Head, Soccer	HH Dow HS	until filled
Coach, Tennis, Boys', Assistant	HH Dow HS	until filled
Elementary Curriculum and Instructional Specialist	Admin. Center	until filled
Mechanic's Assistant	Transportation	until filled
Paraprofessional	Adams ES	04/08/2019
Paraprofessional	Transportation	04/08/2019
Preschool Teaching Associate	Carpenter School	until filled
Sign Language Interpreter	District-wide	until filled
Summer Grounds (Temporary)	District-wide	until filled
Teacher, Science	District-wide	until filled

In addition, we are always looking for

SUBSTITUTE TEACHERS, PARAPROFESSIONALS AND BUS DRIVERS.

Click on this link for information about these opportunities:

<https://www.midlandps.org/Content/Employment%20Opportunities>

Please keep the nominations coming in for MPS staff members you believe are **Shining Stars!** Link to Shining Star nomination form:

<https://www.midlandps.org/shining-star-nomination-form>

Interested in purchasing "Newsies" tickets? This family-friendly Disney musical is being performed by the MHS Drama Department, April 11-13, at 7:00 p.m. at Central Auditorium. Tickets (\$12 for adults and \$8 for students/seniors) may be purchased at Live Oak, Village Green and at the door.



Midland Public Schools now has **TWO FLYER BOARDS!**

✓ **Student Flyers:** Fun student activities, events and opportunities for students:
<https://sites.google.com/midlandps.org/studentflyers/>

✓ **Community Flyers:** Information and events that may be of interest to parents & adults : <https://sites.google.com/midlandps.org/communityflyers>

Check back often. Flyers are coming in all the time!

Midland Public Schools
600 East Carpenter
Midland, Michigan 48640

MPS Website:

www.midlandps.org

Twitter:

@MichaelSharrow2
@MidlandPS

YouTube Channel:

<http://midps.org/youtube>

Student Flyers:

<https://sites.google.com/midlandps.org/studentflyers/>

Community Flyers:

<https://sites.google.com/midlandps.org/communityflyers>

Administration	923-5001
Adams Elementary	923-6037
Carpenter Pre-Primary	923-6411
Central Park Elem.	923-6836
Chestnut Hill Elem.	923-6634
Plymouth Elementary	923-7616
Siebert Elementary	923-7835
Woodcrest Elementary	923-7940
Jefferson Middle	923-5873
Northeast Middle	923-5772
H. H. Dow High	923-5382
Midland High	923-5181

MPS Board of Education Members:

- Pam Singer, President
- Scott McFarland, Vice President
- Lynn Baker, Secretary
- Mary Fredell, Treasurer
- Brad Blasy, Trustee
- Jon Lauderbach, Trustee
- Phil Rausch, Trustee

Email: board@midlandps.org

wise thought to ponder ...

*"Success is never final,
failure is never fatal.
It's courage that counts."
— John Wooden*